

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A playback device for information data sets, comprising

- a microphone (1) for recording audio markers,
- a memory arrangement (3) for storing the audio markers in association with the respective information data sets,
- a control unit (5) coupled to the microphone and to the memory arrangement.

2. (original) A playback device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it further comprises:

- a loudspeaker (2) for reproducing the audio markers.

3. (currently amended) A playback device as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that at least one of the information data sets is stored in the memory arrangement.

4. (currently amended) A playback device as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that a reading unit (6)

for optical data carriers (10) is present and is coupled to the control unit (5).

5. (currently amended) A playback device as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, characterized in that it further comprises:

- a user interface (4) with at least one control element (4') for selecting an information data set.

6. (currently amended) A playback device as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, characterized in that it comprises an analog-to-digital converter unit (7) for converting recorded audio markers into digital audio markers.

7. (currently amended) A playback device as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 to 6~~claim 1, characterized in that a digital-to-analog converter unit (9) is present for converting digital audio markers into analog audio markers.

8. (currently amended) A playback device as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, characterized in that a conversion unit (8) is present for compressing and/or decompressing information data sets.

9. (currently amended) A playback device as claimed in ~~any one of the claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, characterized in that at least one memory module (3') of the memory arrangement (3) is constructed such that it can be removed from the playback device.

10. (original) A method of operating a playback device for information data sets, comprising the following steps:

- recognizing an information data set without an associated audio marker,
- recording an audio marker,
- storing the audio marker in association with the information data set.

11. (original) A method as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that it comprises the following steps:

- reproducing an audio marker associated with an information data set,
- selection of the information data set by a user.

12. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 10 ~~or 11~~, characterized in that it comprises the following steps:

- reading of an information data set by an optical data carrier, and storing the information data set in uncompressed or compressed form.